

OREGON CROP WEATHER



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Weather: Most weather in Oregon last week consisted of rain, cold temperatures, and even some snow. Klamath, Lake, Wasco, and Wallowa counties reported snow fall last week. High temperatures were mostly in the fifties, while low temperatures reached a chilling eighteen degrees in parts of south central Oregon. Many areas, especially the coastal areas and the Willamette Valley, received more than an inch of rainfall last week. These conditions put a halt to much of the anticipated fieldwork.

Field Crops: Most fall fieldwork was complete. In Clackamas County, work was mostly limited to fertilizer and pesticide applications. Winter wheat and ryegrass seeding was winding down in Marion and Washington counties. Intermittent rain and snow showers disrupted fieldwork across parts of eastern Oregon. Sugarbeet harvest was in full swing in Malheur County. Corn for grain harvest was slowed because of high moisture levels.

Fruit and Nuts: Grape harvest was near completion in Clackamas County. Despite occasional rain showers, fruit growers continued post harvest orchard operations in Hood River County. Some late apples were harvested there, as well as in the southern Willamette Valley. On the south Oregon coast, cranberry harvest continued and many berries were shipped to processors. Walnut harvest continued in the Willamette Valley. Hazelnut harvest mostly over. Winterization of caneberry crops continued in Washington County.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Nurseries were busy with fall projects and plant maintenance. Nurseries are starting to do bareroot digging and are moving balled and burlapped materials to market. Greenhouses are busy with holiday plants and fall outdoor decorative plants. Harvest of commercial Easter lily bulbs is finished and the bulbs were of uniform size and of good quality.

Vegetables: Vegetable harvest continued in western Oregon. Growers were getting the most out of the late harvest of pumpkins, corn, peppers, squash, and tomatoes. Pumpkin patches were busy with many children in search for the perfect pumpkin. Farmers markets reported a decrease in the availability of vegetables due to the cold, wet weather. Potatoes were being processed in Washington County. Onion and potato harvest was delayed due to the rain, snow, and cold weather that hit Klamath County.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Conditions continued to improve throughout Oregon. Livestock were reported in good condition in southwest areas of the State. Many calves continued to be weaned and shipped last week. Growth of fall pastures is progressing nicely throughout Oregon, with only the cooler weather in some areas slowing it down somewhat. Range conditions continued to improve in northeast areas of the State. Cattle were moved out of higher elevations in Umatilla County.

Crop Progress - Week Ending 10/24/04

	This week	Previous week	Last year	5 year average
Winter wheat planted (%)	85	80	73	71
Winter wheat emerged (%)	60	31	38	35
Days suitable for fieldwork	5.6	6.7	6.7	n.a.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 10/24/04

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Topsoil (%)	7	24	61	8
Subsoil (%)	8	33	56	3

Crop Condition - Week Ending 10/24/04

	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Winter Wheat (%)	0	0	18	69	13
Range & Pasture (%)	4	28	27	40	1

CLACKAMAS: Most fall field preparations and seeding has been completed. Grape and hazelnut harvests are essentially over. Fall vegetables are still available for local sales. Pumpkin patches have been busy with many visiting children in search of the perfect pumpkin. Nursery shipments are increasing, bareroot digging has begun, and balled and burlapped materials continue to move. Livestock are in very good condition. Fall pasture growth is only being slowed by the arrival of cooler temperatures. Wet weather is normal now. Field work mostly limited to spray and fertilizer buggies. Some last minute grain seeding is still possible.

COOS: Livestock mostly good. Cranberry harvest continued; some fresh fruit was in markets. Most berries were being shipped to freezers or processors. Commercial Easter lily bulbs were very uniform with good to excellent quality. Wet weather delayed end of season planting. Cool and wet conditions prevailed this week on the south coast. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Brookings-Harbor: 0 days, at Bandon: 4 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 52.0 at Bandon to 54.5 deg F at Brookings-Harbor; highs ranged from 58.9 at Bandon to 64.5 deg F at Brookings-Harbor, and lows ranged from 40.4 at Bandon to 47.9 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 2.97" at Bandon to 5.06" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 28 GDD at Bandon to 36 GDD at Brookings-Harbor.

JACKSON: Many grain crops were still being planted. Those crops that have already been planted received a good rain. Haying is probably done for the year, unless we get some late warm weather. Mostly cattle on the grass hay grounds now. Fruit harvest is over except for vineyards and maybe some late apples. Vegetable growers were getting most of the late vegetable picking done and out for sale. Mostly pumpkins, corn, peppers, squash and tomatoes. Greenhouses were working with their holiday plants. Still lots of fall decorative plants at outlets. Nurseries mostly with maintenance of plants and preparing for winter season. All livestock looking quite good. The rains we had this week helped pastures, but may have been too late for the dry ground. Some are showing some green, but time will tell if the weather should warm up again.

JOSEPHINE: Mild temperatures, short days, and rain have changed things greatly in this area of the state. Beautiful weather! The trees that still had leaves on them (not burnt off by temperatures, drought, or wind) are starting to change. Cleaning up of gardens and yards, burning debris, prepping soil, and planting winter crops are things we did this week. Animals are looking good. Walnuts are being harvested now.

LANE/LINN/BENTON: Some late apples. Some late asian pears and winter pears. Hazelnut and walnuts still being harvested. Few fresh vegetable products were at the Farmers market due to cold, wet weather.

MARION: Planting of new ryegrass fields and winter wheat starting to wind down. Fertilizer and herbicide applications on established grass seed fields continue as weather permits, and as needed.

WASHINGTON: Red clover for seed is finished. Field corn is finished, some are left for wild life feed. Most winter wheat has been planted and some winter wheat fields left fallow for next year's sweet corn planting. New seeding perennial rye is showing well. Berries are finished. Most hazelnuts have been harvested. Walnuts continue being picked up. Winterizing blackberries and caneberries. Sweet corn for processing done, and at the Farmers markets. Pumpkins are bountiful. Potatoes are being processed. Busy balling evergreens and moving to sales areas. Rotating containers to new locations. Cattle look good and calves are being weaned. Pastures are holding up with continued mild weather and adequate moisture.

EASTERN OREGON

HOOD RIVER: Intermittent rain disrupted field work, but fruit growers continued post harvest orchard operations. Some late season apples were harvested as weather permitted.

KLAMATH: Snow showers on Sunday. Rain, snow, and cold temperatures delayed the remaining onion and potato harvest.

LAKE: Cooler temperatures throughout the week. Received fair amount of precipitation in the form of rain and snow towards the end of the week.

MALHEUR: Parts of the county received over one-half of an inch of rain, which is good for this time of year. Sugarbeet harvest is well underway. Corn grain harvest is very sporadic because of the moisture levels. Fieldwork is being buttoned-up on all crops but corn grain fields. A lot of calves are being shipped. Sugarbeet harvest is well underway and corn for grain is starting to depend on moisture. Scattered showers were present the first of the week. General rain ended the week with enough moisture to stop most field operations. Maybe we will have a wetter than usual fall.

SHERMAN: Grain seeding winding down; some weed control in stubble. Big upcoming events include Coop Annual meeting on Oct 27 and County Wheat Growers on Nov 5. Also, there has been some talk about elk hunting.

UMATILLA: Cattle were in the process of moving out of the high country. Calves were being weaned and shipped. First frost of the season hit this weekend, and freezing temperatures arrived over the weekend. The last of the wheat is being dusted in the drier areas of the county.

WALLOWA: Rain received throughout the week put a damper on some field work, but winter wheat crops are enjoying the moisture. Range conditions are also improving. Mountains are showing good accumulations of snow.

WASCO: It rained on Monday and showered on Thursday. Cool nights and warm days continued through the week. Snow was reported above Camp Baldwen in the National Forest. Winds were very mild and the fall foliage is starting to color-up in the hills and Columbia gorge. Winter wheat seeding continues and emergence is fairly rapid with the moist top soil. No frost reported in the agricultural areas. Fruit harvest is in the final cleanup stages. Cattle are being rounded up and being moved to winter pastures.

WEATHER DATA FOR SELECTED STATIONS IN OREGON - Week Ending October 24, 2004 (as of 11:00 am)

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS BASE-50F		LAST WEEK'S PRECIPITATION			SEASON CUMULATIVE PRECIPITATION			
	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	TOTAL	DFN	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	DFN	PCT NORMAL	DAYS
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	41	62	52	1	15	0	1.19	-0.27	6	10.96	3.89	155	33
Crescent City	40	59	52	-3	18	-18	2.48	1.17	4	6.84	1.74	134	19
Florence	41	59	50	-4	96	-18	2.50	0.95	7	11.10	4.40	166	22
North Bend	43	57	51	-4	13	-17	2.30	1.06	6	10.65	5.67	214	20
Tillamook	37	62	52	2	20	4	1.54	-0.29	6	13.29	4.39	149	26
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Corvallis	39	63	52	1	20	4	0.62	-0.20	7	3.74	0.06	102	20
Eugene	37	63	50	-3	9	-13	0.69	-0.23	6	4.58	0.62	116	20
Hillsboro	37	61	51	0	13	-1	0.64	-0.09	7	3.66	0.15	104	21
McMinnville	39	61	52	0	15	-2	0.93	0.10	6	4.12	0.21	105	23
Portland AP	41	62	53	0	22	-2	0.64	-0.04	7	3.31	-0.34	91	20
Salem	40	61	51	1	15	0	0.65	-0.13	6	4.43	0.78	121	21
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	38	59	50	-5	35	-29	2.25	1.60	4	3.29	0.72	128	10
Medford	37	60	50	-4	8	-19	1.57	1.18	4	2.46	0.56	129	8
Roseburg AP	40	60	51	-3	13	-19	1.21	0.58	6	4.53	1.79	165	19
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	29	67	46	0	3	-4	0.34	0.08	4	0.98	-0.45	69	9
Heppner	32	69	49	-2	72	-7	0.39	0.14	6	1.58	0.01	101	15
Hermiston AP	34	61	51	3	15	3	0.10	-0.05	2	0.54	-0.30	64	8
John Day	27	49	42	-7	0	-11	1.28	1.08	5	2.09	0.58	138	13
Moro	31	60	48	1	3	-4	0.34	0.16	4	1.29	0.23	122	17
Pendleton AP	38	60	51	2	13	-2	0.31	0.10	5	1.01	-0.19	84	12
The Dalles	38	67	54	7	29	22	0.17	-0.04	5	0.86	-0.25	77	13
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Bend	26	54	43	-3	0	-7	0.35	0.18	4	1.30	0.39	143	10
Burns	23	54	40	-4	0	0	0.77	0.59	5	1.15	0.07	106	12
Klamath Falls	26	50	39	-9	0	-8	1.24	0.96	5	1.68	0.38	129	9
Lakeview	27	50	38	-9	0	-7	0.50	0.20	3	0.78	-0.72	52	6
Redmond	18	56	43	-4	0	-7	0.12	-0.02	4	0.50	-0.26	66	12
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	26	54	43	-3	0	-2	0.83	0.69	6	1.74	0.53	144	13
Joseph	28	64	39	-2	0	0	0.82	0.37	7	3.14	0.41	115	18
La Grande AP	34	54	44	-4	0	-8	0.93	0.60	5	1.69	-0.20	89	13
Union	19	61	44	-3	0	-7	1.42	1.20	6	2.50	0.74	142	19
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	30	59	47	-3	2	-8	0.12	-0.02	2	0.45	-0.50	47	6
Rome	30	56	42	-6	0	-7	1.08	0.94	4	1.57	0.57	157	8

Summary based on National Weather Service data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Wednesday, September 1, 2004.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-90 normals period).

Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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